

October 2021

CANS NUTRITION BULLETIN

Child and Adult Nutrition Services

SD Department of Education



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The Grapevine—A Note From Cheriee

Happy Autumn!

This is a busy month, so I will jump right in! Approvals for the School Nutrition Program iCAN applications are about 78% complete. Schools that do not have an approved application need to get theirs approved before the end of October if they intend to submit an August school lunch or breakfast claim to meet the 60-day claim submission deadline.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program iCAN application is open and approvals are underway. We are asking that applications be completed by September 30. We have two CACFP staff members planning to be out on extended leave starting November, so your cooperation is very much appreciated!

If you are facing challenges in purchasing food and supplies or having trouble keeping your kitchens staffed, I hope you were able to join our special Check in with CANS held on September 17. We went over some updated guidance from the USDA to try to help our schools and agencies overcome some of the recent supply chain and staff shortage issues. You can find the full minutes on the CANS website (https://doe.sd.gov/cans/index.aspx) under the Check in With CANS section, a recording is also temporarily available.

Did you know there are lots of different ways to contact the CANS office?

- The DOE website, at the very top next to the DOE logo is a link to "Contact Us." This lists all the divisions in DOE. We are under the Division of Child and Adult Nutrition Services section. If you need help from Stacy Booth, she is listed under the Division of Finance and Management, Office of Grants Management. Each person's name is linked to their email address.
- A quick list with a little bit more detail is listed on the DOE CANS website (https://doe.sd.gov/cans/index.aspx), in the bulleted list click on "Contact List." This has names, areas of responsibility, and phone numbers. You can print this version off and hang it in your office as a handy reference.
- The CANS main phone and group email box is monitored every business day from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm central time zone; (605)773-3413 and DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us.

I wanted to share the quote that has kept me going through this latest round of challenges; from Maya Angelou, "If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude." Thank you for hanging in there and doing all that you do to keep children in South Dakota fed. Give us a call or email if you have questions and please keep sharing your stories of supply chain issues and staffing shortages so we can keep working with the USDA to find better ways to help.

Cheriee Watterson

South Dakota Sponsor Spotlight!

Is your school or agency doing anything unique and interesting in your programs that you would like to share!? Do you want to be featured in our South Dakota Sponsor Spotlight segment!? Submit any pictures along with a summary of the exciting events that you're doing to DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us.



Meade Farm to School program a rousing success:

https://www.bhpioneer.com/local_news/meade-farm-to-school-program-a-rousing-success/article_d6583f78-1d86-11ec-a62d-1f7f1af01243.html

Local foods can fuel our youth:

https://www.bhpioneer.com/opinion/editorials/local-foods-can-fuel-our-youth/article 865ca542-1d89-11ec-84c5-8b288016e65f.html



Check in with CANS Monthly Conference Call

Join us each month to **Check in with CANS** in the upcoming year! Each check in is normally scheduled for the first Thursday of every month at 2:30pm central time zone or 1:30 pm mountain time zone.

This check in is for all our Child Nutrition Program operators: School Nutrition Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program. We invite our Food Distribution Program in Schools and our Procurement Specialists to also attend.

This check in is open to all agencies that are on our programs. Each check in starts with a report from CANS with hot topics, new guidance, program clarifications, and reminders of important dates. Every check in has time scheduled for you to ask questions. Minutes from each check in will be posted after the call is done on our DOE CANS website at https://doe.sd.gov/cans/index.aspx and occasionally these calls are recorded and posted for a short period of time.

Tentative Dates
Thursday, November 4
Thursday, December 9
Thursday, January 6
Thursday, Feb 3
Thursday, March 3

Pick It! Try It! Like It! Preserve It!

Can you guess the produce of the month based on the following clues?



- USDA recognizes this food as a vegetable, BUT botanically it is considered a fruit!
- There are over 100 types of this fruit, and are categorized into both summer and winter
- The winter variant of this fruit can be stored for weeks, and even months!
- There is evidence that this fruit has been cultivated since 8,000 BC in Central America

If you guessed: Dakota: Wagmu, Lakota: wagmú; English: Squash, you are correct!

We feature Three Sister Salad and Zucchini Carrot Bread as the recipes this month. If you have squash in your garden there is also information on how to pick it, store it, and preserve it! https://extension.sdstate.edu/squash-pick-it-try-it-it-preserve-it

Please remember to go all the way down the page and download the "Squash Resources" to access the lesson plans, signage, recipe cards, fact sheets and preservation recommendations.



School Nutrition Program

Verification

Hopefully, you have seen by now that you must conduct verification of free/reduced meal applications if you collected any for SY21-22. With that guidance from USDA, we will conduct verification trainings as well. The reporting deadline for SY21-22 is November 15, 2021. However, we encourage you to conduct and complete the verification report as soon as possible. If you do not collect applications, you must still complete the verification report in iCAN.

CANS is preparing to host webinars specific to how to conduct and report results of verification activities. We will work through the Verification process and the Verification Collection Report, also known as the 742 form in two separate webinars.

The PowerPoint presentation and the accompanying documents can be found on the <u>CANS/SNP website</u> under the Trainings and Webinars section, Verification Process heading. I encourage you to have these resources available for the presentations.

The Verification Process webinar is scheduled for September 28 at 9:30am CT/8:30am MT. The Verification Reporting webinar is scheduled for October 12 at 9:30am CST8:30am MT.

Click the link below to join both webinars:

https://state-sd.zoom.us/j/96416824860?pwd=dUV6Mm9vT04xS0JTTEgxdjFIUjBGUT09

Meeting ID: 964 1682 4860

Passcode: 704379 One tap mobile

+12532158782, 96416824860#, *704379# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799, 96416824860#, *704379# US (Houston)

Please contact the CANS office at DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us, or call at 605-773-3413 with any questions.

CANS Welcomes Cynda Frey

Hello everybody! I am Cynda Frey, a new Child Nutrition Program Specialist.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY did not leave much room for farming and gardening but instead, I was exposed to an unlimited variety of cultures and the foods they offer; including my own Puerto Rican culture. My passion for science and food combined when I earned my B.S. in nutrition. I have volunteered with AmeriCorps and primarily worked for non-profit organizations around the United States. I have a passion to serve others and ensure the best for those in need. When I'm not tending to my garden in Rapid City with my 6- and 3-year-old, I am biking and exploring the beautiful Black Hills with my husband.

I can be reached in the Rapid City office at (605)394-2223 or at Cynda.Frey@state.sd.us

CANS Welcomes Stacey Booth

Hi, my name is Stacey Booth, the new Education Program Specialist in Grants Management for the CANS Program. I live on a ranch in rural Vivian with my husband. We have two daughters, a son-in-law and 3 granddaughters.

My interest in working for the Department of Education stems from my past experience of being the Program Director for the Jones County 21st Century Community Learning Center for 13 years. There is definitely a satisfaction in being a part of a team that benefits children and adults in our great state.

CANS Welcomes Diana Webb

Hello everybody! My name is Diana Webb, I am the new Senior Secretary for the CANS division. I recently moved to Pierre after spending 29 years in Anchorage, Alaska. I am raising three awesome children and one black lab (Brody-16, Kane-5, Matias-3 and Ruger dog-10) our family enjoys everything outdoors including but not limited to camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, disc golf, swimming, and rock hounding. We have a busy full life and try to enjoy it to the fullest, Pierre has turned out to be the perfect place for us! I am excited to be a part of the CANS team and look forward to working with everyone.

October is Farm to School Month!

Midwest Dairy Website:

<u>School food service resources</u>- bulk milk dispensers, smoothie toolkit, hot chocolate toolkit <u>Farm Life</u>-virtual farm experience, farm life infographic for South Dakota, online farm <u>Dairy For Educators</u>- virtual farm tours, dairy activities, story time, lesson plans



iMATCH Reminders

Remember to review iMATCH update student lists in the Student Information Management System (Infinite Campus) with direct certification information. Keep in mind that SNAP, TANF, and FDPIR extends to other students within the household.

Student Eligibility —> Administration —> DC Matching —> Matched tab —> Uncheck 'Exclude' checkboxes —> Apply

Also remember to review the Potential Matches tab; it is suggested to at least review the 'high probability' potential matches.

See the <u>iMATCH User Manual</u> for instruction on reviewing the Matched tab (pg 11), and reviewing Potential Matches (pg 23).

Check out the <u>iMATCH Basics Training recording</u> on the CANS webpage. The PowerPoint can be found here.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

CACFP Single Audit Reminder

If your agency has expended more that \$750,000 in federal funds, you must complete a single audit. If this is applicable to your agency, you could be reimbursed for these expenses. If your agency is interested, please contact the CANS office for more information.

<u>Summer Food Service Program</u>

Update

SFSP program was represented during the annual South Dakota Library Association meeting on September 30, 2021 with a short 15 minute presentation about the program.

We are looking for sponsors in very remote areas of South Dakota where children have no means to get to larger program sites. Libraries would be great asset to the program as they could provide certain meals and also enrichment activities during the summer months.

If you are a library in a remote, high need area or if you know organizations who would be interested in the SFSP program please reach out to our office by calling 605-367-5295 or emailing brigitta.bly@state.sd.us

Food Distribution Program

Supply Chain Issues

Supply Chain issues have impacted schools nationwide. Labor and product shortages are impacting costs, and most agencies are seeing price increases. USDA's Food and Nutrition Services has posted a "Technical Assistance and Guidance" at this link: https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/dynamic-school-environment-supply-chain-issues.

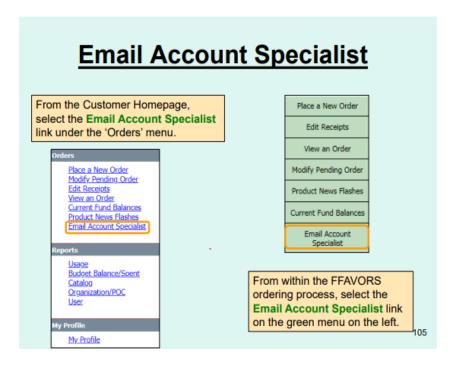
A few good tips to follow:

- Communicate potential changes to school meals with families.

 It is very important to communicate with parents. Let them know the issues impacting the supply chain and menus are more subject to change more than ever.
- Communicate with food distributors on a regular basis to identify any emerging supply chain issues for commercial and USDA Foods and to understand what products are available.
- Place product orders earlier and forecast food needs for a longer period. Make sure to
 check your storage space before placing orders to determine how much extra
 inventory can be stored. USDA Food orders <u>cannot</u> be cancelled once the orders are
 processed at the Food Distribution Office.
- Partner with the state and/or neighboring SFAs to communicate with food distributors about products, identify alternate non-traditional sources of supplies, or explore ways to purchase and store foods.
- Explore local or regional cooperative purchasing groups to increase buying power and access to products and services.
- Create menus that use products and recipes that are substitution friendly. For example,
 if chicken is not available, ham or turkey can be used instead in salads, sandwiches,
 and meal bowls.
- Use two- or three-week cycle menus, standardized recipes, and the USDA Food Buying for Child Nutrition Programs as tools to improve the accuracy of food procurement forecasts for food distributors.
- Work with the state agency to apply for meal pattern waivers and/or conduct emergency procurement processes, as appropriate.

DoD Fresh/FFAVORS

DoD Fresh/FFAVORS orders need to be receipted within two days of receiving the order. If you did not receive product, make sure to mark it on the receipting page. If you have been shorted product for two or more weeks click the email account specialist in the DOD Fresh/FFAVORS site to report the issue.



If you have a DoD Fresh/FFAVORS complaint, fill out the complaint form located on the CANS website, on the USDA Food Distribution for Child Nutrition Programs webpage at this link https://doe.sd.gov/cans/fdp.aspx under documents.

Program Policy Memos

Some policies have multiple numbers. That means those apply to multiple programs.

Child & Adult Care Food Program

Current policies can be found at http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/policy.

School Nutrition Programs (SP Memos)

Policies that apply to school operation and administration can be found at http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/policy.

Summer Food Service Program

Policies can be found at http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy.

Food Distribution

Food Distribution policies can be found at https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources?f%5B0%5D=resource_type%3A160&f%5B1%5D=program%3A35

COVID Waivers

To find a current list of the waivers that South Dakota has opted in to, you can visit the <u>CANS</u> webpage under the "Announcements Regarding Coronavirus/COVID-19" heading. Here, you will find a chart that lists all of the current waivers South Dakota is operating under.

Contact CANS

For any questions, comments, or concerns

Email: DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us

Phone: (605) 773-3413

Fax: (605) 773-6846

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Professional Standards Reminder: Any learning or training you receive about any aspect of the School Nutrition Programs can be counted as training time towards the professional standards annual training requirement. Reading the bulletin each month does count towards training hours.

Please retain documentation to show what topics were trained. For example, agenda, topics, handbook, certificate, etc. And record training on a Tracking Tool – we suggest using the <u>SD Tracker Tool</u> posted on the CANS NSLP website.

To credit training hours for time spent reading the Nutrition Bulletin, you will need to keep track of the time you spent reading and determine the applicable training codes. Appropriate documentation for this would be a copy of the bulletin signed and dated with the amount of time written on it.